



News Release

United States Navy

Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command
Public Affairs and Corporate Communications
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Navy's new Information Technology centers wrap up construction

SAN DIEGO — The Navy Marine Corps Intranet (NMCI) — the largest contiguous information technology network ever constructed in the United States — will reach an important milestone this week as workers wrap up renovating work areas and installing computers, servers and more than 757 miles of communications cable at the North Island Naval Air Station.

SPAWAR is overseeing the installation of the Navy's NMCI information technology contract. The NMCI will provide state of the art information technology service to more than 360,000 Navy and Marine Corps users worldwide. Facilities in San Diego include a Network Operations Center, a Help Desk, and an IT lab that will provide more than 700 information technology jobs when operating at full capacity. The NMCI is more than twice the size of the next largest corporate computer network.

The San Diego Network Operations Center, located at North Island, will service about 78,000 users and can backup other Network Operations Centers like the east coast NOC in Norfolk, Va. The annual payroll for the San Diego NOC will be more than \$38 million and will employ about 340 people.

A Carlsbad-based company, Rancho Santa Fe Technology-MCS Inc., is renovating the facilities and installing the new communications and support equipment. The company employs about 400 people on contracts valued at \$75,000,000 to renovate and upgrade facilities for the NMCI in California, Nevada, and Hawaii. More than \$40 million of those contracts are for work on the Network Operations Center on North Island, server farms on Point Loma, and the Help Desk and IT laboratory at Commerce Point (near Old Town). In addition to the San Diego work, Rancho Santa Fe is currently upgrading infrastructure and technology systems for about \$15 million on Navy and Marine Corps bases at Port Hueneme, Point Mugu, China Lake, and Lemoore in California and Fallon, Nevada.

SPAWAR moved to San Diego from Washington, D.C. in 1997 and employs more than 4,000 people in the San Diego area. SPAWAR is one of the Department of the Navy's three major acquisition commands. Its mission is to enable knowledge superiority for the warfighter through the development, acquisition and life cycle support of effective, capable and integrated C4ISR (Command, Control, Communications, Computers Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance), Information Technology, and Space Systems.

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There will be a news media availability Friday, May 4, 2001 at 10:00 at the North Island Network Operations Center in the Grace Hopper Computer Building. Accredited News Media should contact SPAWAR Public Affairs and plan to meet at the Pass and Decal building of the North Island Naval Air Station. News media representatives will have an opportunity to walk through the areas nearing completion including the server farm and talk to NMCI team members.

For more information contact:

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